

EAST WILLIAMS MEMORIAL SCHOOL

Executive Summary:

Preferred Option

It is the consensus of the East Williams Memorial School WMAAR Committee that the Board would permanently designate areas to the north of Oxbow PS (Areas L, O, P) to East Williams Memorial PS, and the southwest portion (Areas N, M, Q) of Oxbow PS's attendance boundary to Valleyview Central PS.

Reference Rationale

East Williams Memorial School is currently at 59% capacity, leaving space for additional enrollment.

The distance in which any child would need to ride the bus to arrive at East Williams falls within the 70 minute ride limit.

Additional Feedback

Our committee held 2 meetings that were publically advertised to the school families as well as our community. The meetings were attended by parents of existing students, parents of future students, individuals that live within walking distance to the school with no children currently in our school, members of our Municipal Government including the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and a counselor as well as members from the local newspapers. From these meetings we accepted questions from the audience which led to discussions in the following areas:

Bussing - The length of time any one student would be on the bus either to or from the school. The bus company was contacted and although they could not give exact times for each student at this time, they did commit to staying within the 70 minute maximum bus ride.

Potential Development in our Communities - There are various possible housing development sites within the East Williams Memorial School current boundaries. Members of the Municipality gave insight into the number of houses and the time line they were working with. After discussion, it was felt that these would not affect the potential children in this review.

Boundaries dividing neighbours - Where and how the dividing boundary lines were made was discussed at length. Although there was no definitive right answer, it was agreed that we hoped that consideration would be given to neighbouring children going to the same school. Possibly boundaries being placed at the rear of a residential property instead of using a road to divide.

Feedback Summary

At the completion of our public meetings, the consensus was that we would welcome the families from an expanded school boundary into our school family. We understand how this may be a major adjustment for those students and we would like to work with the families and the current school to make this the easiest transition possible. The Social and Emotional well being of the students are of our utmost concern.